

A
BRIEFE REPORT OF
THE MILITARIE SERVI-
CES done in the Low COUN-
TRIES, by the Earle of LECHE-
STER : written by one that
serued in good place

In there in a letter in
to a friend
of his.

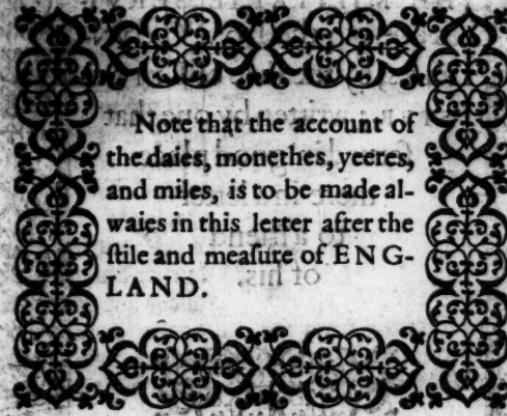
Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester

Imprinted at London, by
Arnold Hatfield, for
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1587

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Note that the account of
the daies, monethes, yeeres,
and miles, is to be made al-
waies in this letter after the
stile and measure of ENGLAND.

Yd. godbold in boningmi
tot blith bloma
welldelgoode

7821

W TO THE RIGHT WORSHI PFVLL

MY ESPECIALL GOOD
FRIENDE SIR

L.A. KNIGHT.



I R, to satisfie your often earnest requestes,
I have taken time these holydaies to set
you downe a brieue reporte of the military
seruices done in the lowe Countries, by the
Earle of LEICESTER, and his armes,
during the tyme of his abode and government
there : reckening from the 22. day of January 1585.
on which day he was received Gouvernour of those Coun-
tries ; till the 23. of November 1586. when he embar-
ked at V L V S H I N G , in his retурne for E N G L A N D .
I entremedde not with the estate of Religion, justice, or
civill policie, because your letters demaund it not, and I
willingly deale not further in reportes, then is by some
kinde of dutie required of me. You expect not I hope but
the substance of things done with brevite : the circum-
stances, I know, and particularities, will require a rea-
sonable volume. Of one thing I must entreat you to be
especially excused. I will not meddle with the particular
seruices of priuate men: because if I should rehearse them
all, and speake of them as indeede they haue deserued, it
were aboue my skill, and I shold be longer then my leis-
ure suffreth. And if I shold touch some, and conceale
others, the full offence would hardly be endured. For
truth

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truth of the things I write you of, this be assured: what I write as done of our partie, either I sawe, and am witness of it my selfe, or I haue it by the credibl report of those that were the doers. What I set downe of the enemies doings, I either take it from their owne intercepted letters, or I do it upon the aduertisements of our best intelligencers: who in circumstaunces may erre, but swarne not much from truth, I thinke, in any materiall point: hoinsooner it is, I trust you will be perswaded, that I willingly speake no vntruth: And then as I conceiue of these things, if so it please you to accept of them, they haue bene done, as I take them, in maner as followeth.

After long and humble suite of the Estates generall of the united Provinces of the lowe Countries, it pleased the Daudenes Maestrie our Soueraigne to graunt unto them a large and bountifull aide of men & money, in such sort, and vpon such Articles and conditions, as in the treatie concluded betwene them, bearing date the fourth day of September, in the yere 1585. it moze at large appereþ. To speake of the magnanimitie, wisedome, bonnie, and singular godnesse of his Maestrie in yelding so great and chargeable a succour: with consideration agaist whom, vpon how necessarie and most vrgent cause, and for how greuouslie oppressed a people and countrey, it was intended, were a matter beside my purpose at this time, and aboue the reach of my pen and skill. The fact is, and will be approued, and renowned in the world, so long as the memorie of wise and godly Princes, and of true princely actions shal endure. But in the Treatie named, there is one Article amongst others, whereby it is especially required, That it might please her Maestrie to fende with her forces into those partes, a personage of nobilitie, valure and wisedome, of the English Nobilitie, as well to gouerne her people, as also to direct and to deale otherwise, and to vs such further preemnence

in the lowe Countries.

preminence and authoritie, as is spesified in the Treatie. The man for this purpose most desired of the Estates, and especially chosen by her Maestrie, was the Earle of Leycester, who being accordingly appointed for this service, after his commission received, and biew taken of such as were then to go with him, leaving whatsoeuer the singular blessings of God most happily many waies, and the especiall fauour of a mightie Prince had of long time yelded him in his owne Countries; tooke leaue at the Courte, and departed towardes Harwich in Essex, there to embarque in the beginning of December following. There accompani-ed him in this voyage, the Earle of Essex, the Lord Awdeley, the Lord North, with divers Knights, and manie Esquiers and Gentlemen, to the number of syze or seauen hundred horse, bravely and souldierlike appointed, all voluntaries and of his owne friendes, followers, & servants. He departed from Harwich with the most part of his traine the ninth day of December, and on the tenth of the same arrived at Vlissing in Zealand, wher, at Middleborough he was receaved with great concourse and ioye, and after two daies staid there by sundrie tournies came to the Hage in Holland. Here after many daies treatie: vpon the 22. daie of Januari 1585. he received the gouernement of those Countries, with tytle of Gouvernour and Captaine Generall of Holland, Zealand, and of the united Provinces, and of their associates. The united Provinces, and their associates were then accropted the Duchie of Gelders, with the Countie of Zutphen, Holland, Zealand, Vtricht, and the counties adioining of Frizeland, betwene the river of Eme and Lawers, Flamand also and Brabanc, for the tolowes of those countries, that then helde with the other united Provinces. And the estate of them all was then this. In Holland, Zealand, and Vtricht the enemie had cleraly nothing: in Frizeland also nothing, sauing that the citie of Groningen and that part of the countrie called Omelandas were wholie

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Inholie his: in Gelderland and Zutphen he had a good part: in Brabant the Estates had but Bergen apzome, Saint Ghertrudenberg, Hoesden, Graue, and Werve castle, with the forte of Lillo: in Flanders they had Sluice, and Oostend, and the fortes of Ternense, the Dole, Lyfkenhook, and Saint Antonies boke: all the rest were the enimies, togither with all the other of the seuentene Prouinces, except the whole al-most of the countrie of Overissell, which in a kinde of newe-traitie, seemed to favor the Estates party, and rather to en-cline to them: but indeed did greatly aide the enimie with victualles and provisions, and had manie secrete intelligen-cies with him.

These Prouinces, their estate, and the people of them did the C. of Leicester at this his first arrivall, and accep-tance of the government find in great confusio[n]: The com-mon people without obedience, The soldier in miserie and disorder for want of pay, The Governo[r] weary, & tired, for lacke of god assistance, and due obedience, The Prouin-cies themselves staggering in their union, & every Towne next danger readie to scke ne we means for their saletie: such was their feare of the enimie triumphant nowe with continuall victories, and especially with the late recoveries of Amwape: so little was their hope of their owne abilitie to resist, and so many were the enimies depe and secret praycles, even in the verie bowels of them.

The estate dule considered, and such remedies to enerie member aptly applied, as the present time would then per-mit: the ciuill government being first in some god sort well settled, the Earle applied hymselfe forthwith to the militarie seruice, the first occasion being offered for the relief of Graue.

Graue is a Towne in Brabant, belonging to Count Mourice of Nassau, seconde sonne to William Prince of Orange deceased. But it was then in the government of Count Philip of Hohenlo[n] or Hollocke a Germaine, who had

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had long serued the Estates, and had placed governour
in this Towlne Mounsieur Hemart, a Baron of these
lowe Countries with garrison of about eight hundred
Dutch and Petherlande souldours. The Towlne is not
great, but fortifed of late, and made verie strong by the
Prince of Orange, whose patrimonie it was. It is of
some importaunce, because standing upon the riner of
Mae, it hindereth the frē passage of that part of the riner
nere it. Otherwise for trade, territorie, wealth, or any
other commoditie, it is not to be much accounted of.
Alexander Farnese, Prince of Parma, gouernour then for
the king of Spaine in Brabant, Flaunders, and those parts
of the lowe Countries that acknowledge the king of
Spaine, had sent the Count Charles Maunsfelt, to be
leaguere this Towlne, and to besiege it somewhat afar
off, which he accordingly did, by erecting rounde about it
fourre fortes, with fiftene hundred souldours in them,
and hanning nere him within one englisch mile all the
Spanish Regiments, to the number of five thousand foot-
men. He had now lien there from December till about
the beginning of March: at which time the C. of Leyce-
ster understanding the Towlne was brought into distres
for lacke of men, victuals, and other prouisions, mind-
ing to relieu it, and for the readie answering of all inci-
dent occasions to be moze nere it, departed from the
Hage by *Harlem*, and *Amstredam*, to *Virichr*. From
thence he presently sent his horsemen being in number
about thirtene or fourtene hundred, to encampe at
Nyekircke in the prouince of *Vellowe* in *Gelderland*: alswell
to unburden the Towlnes of them, as also by their li-
eng there to detaine the enemies forces of those partes
from *Graue*. He appointed to Count Hollock, and Sd.
John Norris Coronell generall of the English infantry,
about two thousand footmen, without horsemen, be-
cause the place was not for them, with direction to vi-

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tuall and to supple and furnish Graue, with all necessaries. These Gentlemen marching with their troupes, take first by assault a little foort of the enimies about fourre miles from Graue, called the *Mill forte*, and then mea-ning to fortifie themselves as neare the towne as they might, and from their fortification to take such order as occasion should minister, so; atchieuing their intent be-gan to intrench upon the banke of the *Mose* on *Gelder-land* side, about two englysh miles from Graue, betwene it and *Battenbouye* castle, and within halfe a mile or thereabouts of the enimies hidge, and foortes on that side. They began their worke with about thre hundred soul-diours, and some pyoners on Tuesday at night in Easter-wike the 5. of April, and in the morning had raised it a yarde high, when the enimie having had intelligence of their meaning, sendeth to hinder the same thre thousand Spaniardes: who after two or thre attempts put our men being but few from their worke, and caused them to retire. But other of our troupes to the number of eight or nine hundred, presently meeting them, our men made stande againe, gane a fresh charge vpon the Spaniardes, drame them ouer the fortification, where they fought be-foore, even to their owne foorte, slaying on the ground five hundred of them all Spaniardes: amongst whom seauen spciall captaines, and two others of greater account, and wounded about two hundred which were caried to *Bol-dyke*, & other places. They tooke also one peice of the enimies ordynance, brought to beate our boates and fortification. Of our mensire or seauen score were slaine, but not one man of name. Sir John Norris was hurt in the brest with a pike: sir John Borroughes had a finger strok-en off with a musket shot. After this fight, the Count Hollocke battered and tooke *Battenbouye* castle, and the foorte de *Guarden*, and the strong house of *Empell* and then his victuals being come he victualled Graue by water twise, went

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went himselfe into it, supplied the garrison with newe men, and left it furnished with all prouisions sufficient by acknowledgement of Hemart the captaine himselfe for nine monethes. And having done that he came soz, in the verie viewe and face of the enimie, he dissolved his campe, and came away with great honoꝝ.

A little before this time fell out the surpryse of *Weare* a great Towne in *Westfalia* by cozonell *Skenck*, and afterwards a sharpe fight by the same *Skenck*, with thre or fourre thousande of that countrie, wher he slewe and ouerthrew above two thousand with great valure, and brought away rich spoiles : but being in the diocesse of *Colloigne*, and without the iurisdiction of the united Provinces, and not directly against their chiefe enimie. I wil enlarge no further of these exploits.

The prince of Parma (as it was reported to vs) was much hindred with this ouerthow at *Grane*, with the taking of the castles and virtualing of the Towne : and his former winter preparations being nowe in readines, about the beginning of Mai he began to march towardes *Grane*, but so, as that he was first assured by Count *Maunsfelde* (as by our intelligences & letters intercepted it appaere) that the match for the towne was fully concluded before he would set out to it. Whither he came with his campe nowe of twelve thousand footemen, and about fourre thousande horse. He battered the Towne for shero, and vpon batterie, had it presently yarded without assault. The C. of *Leycester* hearing of the princes preparations towards *Grane*, being as yet vnreadie and defiſtute of all meanes to furnish a campe sufficient to mete with him on equall ground in fieldes, yet to the entent to be neare at hand with the forces he had, and to waite such aduantages as occasion might offer, with a small campe of about thre thousande foote, and one thousande horse, he passed in person the riuere of *Rhyne* at *Arnham* in *Gelder-*

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land, into the province of Bettone, with intent from thence to passe the riuer of Wale also, and so to approach to Graue it selfe.

The Bettone is a prouince in Gelderland, lyng between the riuers of Rhyme and Wale, verie fertile, and then who lie helde by the enemie, or at least infested by him, with his fortes of Layresforte, and Bereksoofe and the two castles of Alou and Bemell. It was first thought expedient to win these fortes and castles before further passage: but they were verie strong, well manned, and sufficiently provided of all necessaries. The great citie of Newmegen was but ouer the Wale on the other side very neare them, and the enemy with his campe at Graue, not eight english miles from them. These god helps so neare, encouraged greatly the souldiours within, who with all warlike skill omitted nothing that mought be required in souldiours for defence. But the resolution was to attempt them, which was done with such valure of our souldiours, his Excellencie himselfe ordering the batteries at some of them, and without respect of trauel or danger, putting his owne hand to the trenches, and other woarkes to be made for the approaches, as at length at severall times they were all yeilded.

Another thing of god importaunce was then to be done also. A little aboue the Tonlebuse in Clevesland is a small Ilande in the riuer of Rhyme, in place where the Rhyme diuiding himselfe, taketh the right hande course downe to Arnham, and retaineth still the name of Rhyme, and on the left hand passeth to Newmegen, and is in Latin called Vahalis, in bulgar Dutch the Wale. The Ilande is called Grauenwert, and being fortifid mought commaunde both the riuers of Rhyme and Wale from that place downe ward, that nothing coulde passe to Arnham or Newmegen. It was thought verie important to surprise this Ilande, and to builde a forte in it: but the matter required celerite,

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tie, secercie, and god strength of men, because the enimie was nere. It was committed to be done to Sir Martin Skenck, (he was now knighted besyze at *Vircke*, and had giuen him by his Excellencie, at his receiving of knighthod a chaine of golde of a thousand crownes) Sir Martin whiles his Excellencie was occupied in winning the forte and castles, tooke the Island, built the forte, and ha-
ving left it defensible and well manned, returned againe to his Excellencie : who haung noise gotten the forte and castles, and so cleare the whole province of *Bontone*, and left not one enimie in it, thought fit to pro-
cede in his principall intent of walwing nere the enimie at *Grave*. He had first to passe the rimer of *Wale*, & then to
marche eight englith miles in the enimies countrey, to
the *Mase & Grane*, where the prince & his campe lay. As
he began to prouide his passage ouer the *Wale* the newes were sodainly brought him that *Grave* was yeilded. This
seemed so strange that it was not at the first beleived, al-
well because it was knowne to be of great strengthe, and
viciated, and thorowly prouided of all necessaries for
nine monethes, as also and more specially so that his
Excellencie had receaved two letters from Baron *Hemart*, captaine of *Grave*, the one the daie before, the other
the same day: wherein *Hemart* wished his Excellencie
to do what else he thought convenient, and to haue no
care of *Grave*, for he was inable to defend it against all
men, for one halfe yere. These letters were sent to the
Q. Maestic: but in the ende the newes were found true.
The Town was yeilded, and his Excellencie bethinking
him what was fit to be done, and seeing his army nothing
equal to the enimies, the numbers being so far different,
as is before rehearsed: understanding also that almost all
the Townes nere about, as *Bonhill*, *Arnham*, *Amerffont*,
Denenter, and the rest of *Golders* and *Ouerissell* stode in
tickle fearmes likely to yeilde if the enimie came nere
them:

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them: and finding indeare that the prince had alreadie sent part of his armie towards *Bomelverie*: he sent forthwith strong garrisons into the next frontire townes, and *Bonell* being thought to be then in some danger, himselfe went thither, with fiftene hundred sotemen, and five hundred horse, where he assured that *Tolme*, and the *Island* being of great impozaunce, and take such order for the rest as that time and the small meanes he then had wold permit. Heman for his sodaine yelding of *Graue* without god cause, being suffitiently furnished of all necessaries for defensse and contrarie to aliaunce of it, given by his owne letters but the same day, and the day before, comming to *Bomell* was there apprehended and caried to *Kinche*, his proces dyaline, and in solemnis assemblye Sir Hollock himselfe and all the rest of the Captaines and capitall officers, of the Dutch, Englissh, and divers other nations adiuged to die, and was publikeley executed accordingly, with two others of his captaines. I will not speake of what difficultie the matter was thought to be in his executio: the party being a sharer of a *Watconstituting*, & greatly mutch and alliance in those parties: his Excellencie a stranger: the *Estate* in broken termes: and the example there leant scene before. But the fact fell out so plaine, that his Excellencie woulde not be intreated but that justice shoulde procede: the thinges conveyn not but condicione him, and the people though sorre for the man yet muche rejoiced to see the justice done. Amongst divers others nowe sent to strengthen the garrisons in sundry places, sir Martin Skenck, and sir Roger Williams were appointed with certayne horse & footmen, to see if they myght enter *Venlo*, whiche it was thought the enimie woulde make his next iourney. *Venlo* is a towne of the Dutchie of *Gelders*, situate upon the riuere of *Mae*, seamen or eight englisch miles from *Graue*, & then in the government of sir Martin Skenck,

in the lowe Countries.

Skenck, who had garrison in it of seauen hundred dutch souldours : but himselfe was absent, and attempting to get into it went as I saie with Sir Roger Williams, and about a hundred horse, But they founde themselves preuented, and all the passages taken by the enimie. But yet minding to assay if with their horsemen they might possiblie breake through the gardes, they gane in the night a sodaine most valiaunt attempt, vpon the whole campe, and ffe manie evet were to the princes owne lodging. But directing themselves towards the Towne, and finding the turnpikes shut, and garded with strong watch of Muskeyteires, and the campe nowe all vp in armes, and the day drawing on : they turned their course towards Wachendoucke, a Towne of the Estates, seauen or eight miles of, where themselves and manie of their compaines entred, and lased themselves from the whole cauallarie of the enimie, nowe pursuing them, some thirtie or fortie of their company were slaine, and taken. The prime then planted chorotoly his fledge of Venlo, which the townes men in short space yielded to him, whiles the souldours made at deffence of the walles. Whiles these things were thus in doing in those partes the L. Willoughbie Gouvernour of Berghe sprake in Brabant, hanting intelligence of a great Convoy of victuall, and other provissons to be brought out of the furder partes of Brabant, next Cleveland, and Lukeland, into Antwerpe: and having good aduertisement of the time of their comming, vpon the 23. of Spaire, he met with them in their waie about eight or ten english miles from Antwerpe, himself had with him thre coynets of horse, and thre companies of foot : the convoy was fourt hundred wagons, and garded with souldours, and of the countrie people, to the number of a thousande. He set vpon them, ffe, and put to flight all the people, burnt and spoiled almost all the wagons, and provissons, and some mares, wagons, and such

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such other things as he thought fit he brought away with him to Bergues.

The E. of Leycester in the meane time haning placed strong garrisons in al his frontiers, began to employ himselfe wholie to the gathering of a sufficient armie to mete with the prince in fiede: sotemen in god numbers were gotten out of Englannde, with some from Scotland: two thousande Germaine boates were appointed to be brought by Count Mewres, with a regiment of Almaine sotemen, and a thousand pyoners. But that the forces now ready mought be doing, whiles the others to make up the full armie were in poinding, his Excellencie sent into Flauunders, vnder the conduction of Count Maurice of Nassau, and of his Deppelwir Phillip Sidney, about two thousand sotemen, which with great exercize and valure surpasid the Colone of Axell, with fourre strong fortes nere about it, slue and put to flight fourre bandes of sotemen in the Colone, had rich spoyle, brought away the gunnes of the ennies, left corouell Pyron, with eight or nine hundred souldiours in garrisone, and rame their way, to the intent to attempt Graweling in Flauunders, which by a deceifull traine laid for him by La Motte, was promised to sir Phillip Sidney, who came thither, but finding the fraude, returned with the losse of about thirtie common souldiours. Those of Axell had by this time cut the dikes, and by letting in the sea, doctoned the countrey to the waies of Axell, and Hulst, and thereby added great strength to Axell.

Shortly after this, the Count Hollock, and sir William Pellham, L. Marshall of the fiede, made a roade into Brabant, where haning wasted and spoiled Lange Straet, and a great part of the countrey, they returned without bearing of any enimie to resist them.

The prince after the yeilding of Venlo marched to Nays, a Colone of the diocesse of Colloigne, helde for the elector,

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elector Truces, by a valiant young gentleman, called Clowte. After some skirmishes, and a little batterie, and Clowte wounded, this Towne was lost, by the cowardlynes of Clowtes soldiers, and Clowte taken out of his chamber wounded, and hanged out at the windowe with some note of unsoldierlike vngent, and no spred aid no w^m.

From thence came the prince to Bercke, wherin were sir Martin Skenck and coronell Morgan, with twelue hundred English, and seauen or eight hundred other soldiours. This Towne is also of the diocesse of Colloigne, and held for the elector Truces. And though being without the limits of his Excellencies iurisdiction, it may seem it appertained not to his charge, as in like sorte Anys also : yet for the importaunce of the place to the united Provinces standing upon the riner of the Rhine, and for the communite, and more communion and dependencie of both castles one on the other, yz. of the elector Truces, and of the Estates of the united Provinces, it was thought expedient that the Towne should be defended with common aide, and therefore such garrison before rehearsed was put into it. The Towne at the beginning when this garrison came in about the time of the loss of Venlo was very weake, and through a contention for it betwene the Prince elector Truces and Adolphe Count of Meurs, unprovided almost of all necessaries. But his Excellencie having a little before quited the strife betwene those two, it was now somewhat supplied of munitions by the Estates, and repaired by the industrie and frauell of Sir Martin and his soldiours. The siege began in the end of July, and was continued on without great effect; partly through the valure of the captaine and soldier within it, who made priuers faires, and often intercepted, and flew sundrie of the enimies soldiours : but especially by reason of the many continual aduertisements brought daily to the Princes campe of a

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great armie of his Excellencies now gathered and in readiness to march. And indeed about this time had the Erie of Leicester collected his forces, and prepared his provisions, and about the 14. of August, sent Sir John Norris, & Sir Thomas Cecill with the vanguard to passe the river Ijssel on his bridge of boates, at the foot of Ijssellort a mile above Arnhem, with direction to encamp 6. or 7. miles into Cleveland, at a place called S. Scuenter upon the banke of the Rhine. On the 17. of August was sent thither to him Sir William Pelham L. Marshall of the armes with another troupe, and on the 19. his Excellencie departed from Utrecht to Rhenen, and so to Arnhem, where he staid till the troupes of Brabant and Zealand with Co. Hollock, and those of Friesland with Count William of Nassau met him there. And when they were all come together, on saturday the 21. of August he departed from Arnhem, accompanied with the Prince of Portugall Don Emanuell, the Prince elector of Colloigne Truces, Co. Mourice of Nassau, Co. Hollock, Co. William of Nassau, Erie of Essex general of the English horsemen, Count Phillip of Nassau, Count Solmes, Count Ouersteyne, L. Willoughbie, L. North, & Phillip Sidney, and divers others, noblemen, knights, and gentlemen, and with the rest of the armie marched that night to Eken in Cleveland. At Eken his Excellencie thought expedient himselfe to take view of his armie, which he did on Sunday the 28. of August, and finding the bands of English and Irish not to fill the number of five thousand footemen : the rest of all nations not to make 2000. the Cavallerie of all sorts not to exceed the number of 1400. knowing the enimie to be 12000. strong on fute, and 3500. horse, experienced soldiers, he fell into consultation what were fittest to be done. To relaine Berck was the principall intent, or at least to get the soldiers safe and honorably out of it. This was to be effected by one of two meaneies.

Either

in the lowe Countries.

Either by assailing or diverting the enemie. The first was full of difficulties. The enemie was strong, he was in his place of strength, he had his retreats at hand. Our campe was fewer in number, we should come a long march into a strange place, we had no retreat within in twentie miles. And which took away all deliberation: our victuals vnsufficient, either for maintenance of the armie, or for relief of the towne, must needs haue failed us. Diversion therefore was thought to be the way, and that to be done by the siege of some place that might force the enemie to arise to succour it. And that place was reckoned fittest, to be *Duisbouge*. *Duisbouge* is a towne of the Countie of *Zutphen*, scituat at the confluence of the riner called oþ *Ißell*, with that pierc of the *Rhine*, that separating himselfe from the bodie of the *Rhine* a little east of *Arnhem*, was anciently called *Fossa Drusiana*, as a ditch cut and made by *Drusius* from the *Rhine* into *Ißell*. The Towne was also called *Drusii burgum*. It was and is now the chamber of the Countie of *Zutphen*: well peopled and reasonably rich, walled round with a high and strong wall, and watered of god depth and breadth round, and in the greatest part double: so that in the opinion of soldiers it was thought of god strength.

This Towne besides that being of importanc, it was like to draw the enemie from *Bercke* to succour it, it was perious also for our armie to be left vngotten behind vs, for that lieng almost in the way of our passage betweene *Arnhem* and the campe, we must haue bene constrained, if we had proceeded to *Bercke* to haue left god forces for the assurance of that passage. There was in it captaine Sampson, a valiant old soldier, a Wallon, with 300. soldiers, and about 500. Burgers that bare armes. The resolution being taken for the siege of this Towne, the armie not knowing but they shold passe on to *Bercke*: upon the sodaine his Excellentie appointed Count Hol-

A report of the service

Jooke with the Earle of Essex, Sir Phillip Sidney and
others, with seauen or 800. sarte, and soe / herte to
march by night, and taking the passages of the towne to
begin the siege by the breake of the day on Tuesday the
30. of August. His Excellencie with the whole armie
that day followed marching back thither from Elles in an
order worth the noting, soe that the bands extends to
the uttermost made shoo of fourteyn or fiftene thousand,
and creas made hym selfe and soote both were not complete
byghroldande. He came early that afternoon to Dun-
stable and himselfe in person within a rabbute. Not
tyme diewe of the wall, or al the east side, and that night
set pponers and soldiers to intrempling within halfe an-
hour shot. Our ordinance was not yet come. The next
night his Excellencie wher standing that day pponers
had left their walle at the trenches; himselfe betweene
eleven and twelve of the clocke at night, went with
Sir William Pelham and some few of his garde to see what
was doing, and being within threestore yarde of the
wall betwix Sir William Pelham most dangerously in
the bellie, but pierced not his entrailles, so that he escaped
death, and was aboute againe within two daies. The
next day came our ordinance, and the morning after it
was planted. Ther had he also ne was that the prince of
Parma, being certified of our sitting downe here, would
be with us within foure daies. Thereloth the former
opinion of his Excellencie for the leue of the princes
rampe by this diversion was fully confirmed. The order
namede being ten pées placed on Friday the second of
September, from the breake of day till two in the after-
noone, his Excellencie being continually hard by them in
the trenches, and had made two breaches reasonable as
suitable, but yet so filled up againe by chose men, with
logs, earth, bedding, and such other trame, that the assault
was

in the lowe Countries.

was difficult, especially a water of a yard and more depe
and therelcofe fote boade being betwene the assailes
and the wall. But such was the courage of our men of all
nations, that without farther batterie they extorted with
great importunitie from his Excellencie being in the
trenches, a resolution for a present assault. And the
contention being great betwene the leaders to whom
the honour of the assault shoulde be givene, it was orde-
red by his Excellencie that Count Hollocke with the
Dutch and Scots: sir John Norris with the English and
Irish, shoulde ech attempt one breach. They forthwith or-
dered their squadrons accordingly, with so generall
courage and ioy, as was maruellous to behold, and did in-
deed daunt the enemie more (as themselves afterwards
confessed) than any thing else that was done. Great also
and many and most earnest were the particular suetes of
private noble men, and gentlemen, for leane to go to the
assault: which his Excellencie would grant to verie few
of them. The squadrons standing at the water side rea-
die to passe to the assault, the enemie within hening
hitherto valiantly and soldierlike carried themselves, and
now laboring to repaire the breaches, and standing in
armes to receive vs, yet seeing presently before their eies
their owne imminent danger, & especially moued with
the resolution of our people, they offered first an accord
upon conditions, which his Excellencie refused, and ther-
upon they yielded simplie, with grant of life to the com-
mon soldier onely. Whiche being accepted, the towne
was rendred, and sir John Boroughes and sir William
Stanley appointed to the garde of it, till further order.
This Exploit being happily attained without losse, up-
on aduise it was resolved to stay there a while, aswell to
take order for the safe keeping of the towne, as also to a-
bide there the princes coming with his rampe, if he
had meaning to take vs: and especially for that neither
¹¹⁸ victuals

A report of the seruice

vituals nor furniture for our ordinance were then come sufficient for any further present attempt. There were two or thre english miles from *Duisborough* somewhat towards *Zutphen*, a castle called *Voerden*, & a strong place called *Hackford* house, held by the enemy, which greatly annoyed those parts. It was thought expedient in the meane time to take in these castle & house, for which cause certain companies were sent thither. They answered at the first stoutly. But afterwards being made belene the cannon was at hand they yielded. Our newes came often to *Duisborough*, that the prince with his campe was risen from *Berck*: That he had laide his bridge ouer the *Rhyme* with intent to passe towardes us : and indee he was whyles we lay there, passed with his armie, and, as we learned, minded to haue assaid the succouring of *Duisbourg*, if it had not bee taken sooner then he expected. But hearing it was gone, and understanding that our campe laie (as indeed it did) verie strongly, he staid on this side the *Rhyme* nere *Weesell*, about thirtie english miles from us, with intent to returne, and to proceed in the siege of *Berck* as we were verie credibly informed. The E. of Leycester having now set full order in the towne, his prouisions being come, and finding that the prince made no halfe towards him in that place, though he might haue seemed to haue attained his principall intent, in raising the siege of *Berck*, with some overplus of aduantage in getting *Duisbourg*, yet to draine the prince further away from *Berck* that it might be wholie releued, as also for divers other god reasons, he resolued to depart thence towards *Zutphen*, and accordingly on the thirteene of September, marched thither with his whole campe, and there sat downe, about an english mile from the towne, on the river side next *Zutphen*, and the princes campe.

Zutphen is the chiefe towne of the Countie of *Zutphen*, situate on the east banke of the river *Ijssel*, about equall

in the lowe Countries.

equall distanſe of ſix or ſeauen enghliſh miles from Dniſbourg on the ſouth, and from Deuenter on the notheaſt quarter. It is of it ſelue ſtrong; but impoſtant in thiſ only, that it hindreth the free paſſage of the Ijſell in the places neare about it. But on the northweſt ſide of the riuer right ouer againſt Zutphen, and within muſket ſhot of the towne in the province of the Vellowe, in the Duchie of Gelder, were two foſts, caſled the foſts of Zutphen, ſuch of impoſtance, as they ſpoiled the whole province of the Vellowe, and made the countrie yeld them large contriбу‐tions even from the poſts of Vtrecht, Amſterdam, and Leiden in Holland, being 50. miles fro them. For ſtrength they were accounted impregnable, and might be ſupplied from the towne by great paſſage boates with al neceſſaries. The Estates campe two yéeres before had lien at them ten moneths, with eleuen thouſand ſotemen, and 3000. hoſte, and departed with losſe without them. Taxis a ſoldier of account with the enimie, lieutenant to Coz‐nell Verdugo gouernour of Frizeland for the king of Spaine, commanded in the towne and foſts. After aduife taken, upon god view of the place, it was reſolved, that the foſts as of moſe impoſtance for vs, and not the towne, ſhould be beſieged. Our hidge of boates was appointed to be laid ouer the riuer about an Enghliſh mile from the towne, and the campe to be placed on both ſides the water: that the prince if he came and thought fit, might ſee that we would gine him the opportunity to attempt vs. Order being taken for theſe things, whiles they were in doing: his Excellencie understanding the tickle estate of Deuenter, thought fit himſelfe in perſon to go thither, leauing ſtraight charge to be ſpedily aduertised, if at the campe they ſhould understand any thing of the Princes moving.

Deuenter is the chiefe citie of the province of Ouerijſell. One of the Haunſe townes, large, ſtrong, rich, and direc‐ting

A report of the seruice

sing indeede *Sionle* and *Campen*, and the rest of the cities
and townes of that countrie, which in a manner depende
wholy vpon it. It is seated vpon the northeast bank of the
riner *Iffel*. It then stode in a kinde of newtrall termes
inclining more in shew to the Estates party, but yielding
no contributions to the war, and indeed aiding the enimie
with victuals and prouissions, and some of the towne ha-
ving secret and strict intelligences with him. That was
the cause of his Excellencies so spedie repaire thither: the
case being taken to be such, as that who had come first of
the prince or him with forces, shoulde haue bene received.
And indeede the prince as we after understood, hastened al
he could thither. But his Excellencie was first entred,
and with him about fourre hundred sotemen, and two ou
thre cornets of horse, and no moe at this time. He dealt
in courteous and gentle sort with the towncmen, and
they likewise vsed him and his well: but yet so, as they
woulde not lodge as in garrison anie of those he brought
with him. He had not beene there full two daies, when
certayne aduertisement came to him from the camp, that
the prince with his whole armie was risen from about
Weesoll, and come to *Burckloe*, a towne of the territorie of
Munster, about eight english miles from our campe.
Wherupon his Excellencie departed presently with his
olme traine to the campe, leauing the fourre hundred
sotemen, and two cornets of horse in *Denerre*, and sine
ding in the camp the trenches vpon *Zimphen* side not fully
finished, he comanded all diligence to be vsed therin, so as
in one day they were sufficiently made vp, & wel furnish-
ed with soldiers, and al necessaries ready for defence. The
next night the prince came to *Zimphen*, with 1500. horse,
and the morning after departed, leaving part of his horse
men there, and returned to his campe at *Burckloe*, wheres
whiles he staled prouiding victuals as we understood soz
Zimphen, and the forte, our men spent the twrie in intren-
ching

in the lowe Countries.

ching and fortifying about that two shires aboves, as also
about the towne like happened divers light skirmishes
most every day, till upon the 21. of September in the eas-
ting his Excellence having intelligence that the Spannes
would the next morning send a conoy of victuals into
Zuyphen, sent out god scot that night, and gaine over
to sir John Norris to Malbaud sir William Scaplestone
and some other bands of souldiers, and appointed some
horsemen in chal to encounter the conoy in the way be-
fouing the enemis rampe, and *Zuyphen*. In the morning
the 22. of September fell a great and thicke mist, that
no man might hardly discerne a man ten paces of, at the break-
ing up whereof the enemis appeared so mirely com-
panies, having planted all their muskets and arquebuses
being 2000, and their pikes being a thousand, very
strongly on the high wayes as our men, specially the nobilitie
men and gentlemen, as the Erle of Essex, the Lord Wal-
leughbie, sir Phillip Sidney, sir William Russell, sir John
Norris and the rest, in number seuen or eight score, who
were in troupe together in the face of the enemis before
our souldiers, received the whole boldi of the enemis that,
and passing the very furie of it, gaue charge upon
the two forward stroops of the enemis horsemen, and
drane them backe over their owne trenches, and within
their pikes at two severall times, in such sort, as Count
Hambrall Gonzaga a man for nobilitie and sediice of
speciall account amongst them, was there slaine, and many
others with him. Captaine George Crichton alia
Albano of singular valure and shill, was taken prisoner, and
two of their cornets brought away. We lost about thir-
tie one and other, gaue, and dying after of hurt, but not
any of name, save onely sir Phillip Sidney, which had ha-
ving one horse shot under him, and mounted upon a se-
cond was shot with a musket in the left thigh, but came
home on his horse, and died the 25. day after. His Great
company

A report of the service

which had binne in the field ginen asper from the beginning, who now receyving the newes of this gree fasse-
me, was somwhat of opinion to haue brought downe
the whole camp, and to haue set upon the enemis with
all our forces. But by better conveynance by counseil
of all the chiefe officers of the field, we being not past 300.
yeare, & 16. or 17. hundred footmen, that might paciently
come to fight, the rest being imployed at the posts, and in
other necessarie seruices at that time : the enemis being
the thousand footmen strong in place, and 12. or 14.
hundred horse, and we doubtless feare his whole armie
was beset there ; whiche it might well haue beene, being
the night before halfe miles of, it was resolved that our
troopes shoulde stay, and not to commit the whole to the
fortune of that day. So this hot skirmish ended, our men
content with their victorie returning, and the enemis
marching quietely away.

After this fight we heard no more of the Prince in 10.
or 12. daies. But our certaine intelligences gaue vs, that
he was gone to mete with our Captaynes and Almaines,
(who thought to be ready to march,) with intent to stay
them either by stoppynge their passage, or by fight, or other-
wise, as alld to prouide more battailes, powere, and that
for Zouphen. His Excellence still applied his principall
purposse besiegynge the fort. There is a piece of ground
on the side of the rimer that Zouphen is, and within sixtie
yards of the towne, called the Island, but it is vise to
tak the towne. The taking of it was accounted of great
importance for the winning of the fort, but full of dan-
ger, lyng so neare the towne, and the enemis haing a
stone fort fortifiid and manred with thirtie men. His
Excellencie was sundrie times promised the surpysing
of this Island by some, but performance not following,
one night himselfe imparting his purposse to two cap-
taines onely, went out at ten of clocke in the night, (the
23d)

in the lowe Countries.

prince elector Truchis, the Earle of Essex, and the R. North
being with him) and gave order for a present supply of
it, which he happily succeeded, that the place and fortis
were sumonely taken, the men within, two of them taken
prisoners, some slaine, the rest fled, or were drowned in
the water, and not a man of ours left or hurt. Now to
kepe this place was great danger, and some would make
perchance to have it left. His Excellencie would not so,
but fell soothly in hand to intrenching, and having
made it defensible, he then abandoned the former state of
camp, and brought the bridge downe to this flume, and
the whole camp never the forte, now intende seriously
attending by all militarie armes and devices to win them.
The hope of all our leaders both English and others,
was small for the obtaining of these forte : They
were so strong and well provided enerie way, and our
meanes scant sufficient for so great an exploit. But his
Excellencies alone selfe contrary to all and every their
advisers perillous in his intent work constantly, and would
not heare one thing that might tend to dissuade him
from this purpose : and as intende about a ioyne of his
armes, and of the conueneration wherof very little
can be desired to any others, he most diligently and dan-
gerously attended alwaies in person both earelie and
late, and put his owne hand almost to every particular
service of it, frances were built, trenches were乍atone,
Quarrishes made on both sides, and nothing for offence, or
defence omitted on either side, that militarie drill, in like
case could execute or invent, till on the fourth of October
the prince having beene auertised by Taxis that the
Germans had taken, and that our forces began to grow
perillous to the forte, came in person to Zuyper with
his whole armes, with intent as he could gather, to at-
tempt new trenches in the flume on the same side. He
came the fourth of October at night, and on the morning
after,

A report of the service:

after he certainly expected he shoulde have attaied the
maine of the whiche he had great opportunitye blisffull
with his armes he gaue to come in the ffeare of the easte and
such meane faire plaine capible of his arme under the
towmest : the towne at the north east beatynge on to wth
the great and small towne, & haying a gate foralle wthin
a certaine flint the wall syntre betwix the towne and the
towne, hauynge his artillerye bent on it the great towz with
his ordeneunce ready to plaie on the towch towz, and the towz
the towz somwhat merer with trusset and arrabat
wth hauleys so that stonyng on the west and south towz they
had compassed it round. But his Excellencie on the Tues-
day at night, alight long hym planted his ordeneunce to
bownd upon the princes shape if it came : and haying re-
pliued hym selfes with three of men, was furstlye
prouided for hym. On the Wenesday morning the first of
October, we sawe of the princes troupe of horse and foot
ranging up e Solone, armes of and more. But haying left
the towne wth hope of ent in the towne, hym wtholding
nothinge of the leste of the concer, he wperies that night
five englysshe miles back, which assone ad his Excellencie
wnter shane, the same Wenesday at night he planted his
ordeneunce both in the flane, & on the other side the towz
against the towz towz. On the Thursdy morning he
broughte the litle battaynall toget on both towz, till one
of the clock in the afternoone, & then took it by assault qua-
king in 300 soldiers in the shad of the great towz wth
saye of hundred soldiers, and of the towne wthere Tylles
were wth wth them addeyned in hearing of wthd w
the plaine and ylde wth calmyng hauynge beene addeyned
the towz towz, and wthout thare englysshe wthd w
the towz towz. In all the time of this bataile the towz
hired menys in the flane on the towz towz and the
armes of the towz towz were to hande wth the spending a
wthd wth the towz towz in the partye of the towz towz geryll
assault

in the lowd Countries.

about vij. Edward Scudley Lieutenante to colonell Sir
W^t. Scudley, & capaine of one of his battaies, being appoin-
ted the first to the assault, being himselfe most valiant,
hee wonnes his bataile the principal cause of the victory
being his selfe, whom his Excellence he holding made
him therfore presently knight in the Frenches, gave him
fortie pounds sterleng in golde, and sent him the next day
a patent of one hundred marks sterleng by her. Vairing the
life of the said Sir Edward, binning his bretheren
labours in England for the due payment therof, with a
most honourable report of this his said service in the pa-
tent. He lost about eight men in this assault and not a
bone. His Excellence appoynted the next day for the ap-
proching the greatest parte. But that night did all the cap-
taines and soldaies within somondry hearing behinde
them their ordeneances, and escaped ouer the water to the
towne wher Texe was faine to receive them. There
were taken from the enemys by our men during this
night two hundred, which the evening two lately arrived
about those other, and a cattle called *Nest*, & called his
Excellencie himselfe in person take in, four englyssh miles
in the *Yellow* fro thys places before the castle of *Buxbergens*
near Dender, whiche he took also a little before this
time. Great ides were made in all the united armes
to the redounde of these costes. The whole countrey
of the *Yellow* abouyninte sixty miles in breath, and as
much in length, being therfore fully shered: and no less
was the enemys daunted, hauing now lost his whole
fuerce in that countrey: and Texe the generall having
taken from these hundrede to make the considerations
of this charge taken up to *Cambrai*, and to adde
victouris upon the departure of the prince from Cambrai
had his chancie dispatches carried by *William*
Willemeaus *Roger Williams*, then apoynted to
guard his company, and to ordene his march, who found
him.

A report of the service.

pon on the 25th at night the next day after the assault
was given, about *Burckha*, right or ten English miles
from our camp, where they gave alarme to his whole
camp, sent in his sentries and reserve forces, but no
man came forth to them. The next day the prince march-
ed by towards *Rugelach*, a house of the Duke of Cleves,
about thre or four English miles from *Weesel*, where he
lay crased as he bore of an ague, and dispersed his
campe about in the villages adioining, since which time
stil his returne to *Bresel*, he bore nothing of him. His
Excellencie after he had so honorably, and with so small
losse in so short time, take these fortz, thought before very
hard to be won : having delivered *Burckha*, which was
the principall intent of his first marching, and Sir Martin
Skene with divers of our English, being come from
thence to his camp at *Zampen* to him : seeing his Al-
maches and Meyters come not : and finding the enimie
quietly gone, having nothing else to do in fiede, and the
time of yere far spent, being about the mid of October,
determined by advise of his counsaile, to gaine over the
garrison and defens of the fortz, and to withdrawe his
soldiers from the Island, and other places, and so to dis-
misse his army, of which things the better to affect himself
with the chise of his counsaile went to *Dremmer*: min-
ding whil to assay the garrisoning of that place, being a
matter of great importance. But being called away from
thence to *Arnhem*, where Sir Phillip Sidney then lay in
great danger: by the death of Sir Phillip retiring himself
with extreme griefe unto *John de Vryck*, he gave oth-
er before his departure for the garrisoning of *Dremmer*,
over-charging of the magistrat there to the priuie elector
of Colleges Trustees; Sir William Polham, and Sir John
Norris, who, with some little ffeare and danger, effected
both according to their commandement of the garrison there
Sir William Polham, with the rest of the rest of the garrison
and

in the lowe Countries. A.

With this humped host, ~~and~~ ^{and} to apply
whiles this was in doing at *Doummer*, there fell out
a great and gallant skirmish at the camp in this fort.
When being given for dismilling the troops into garris-
on, first some companies, then others were sent aside,
and now it had thought expedient to abandon the tren-
ches on the other side of the water next *Zuyphus*: and so
to take up the bridge and come away. First the larger
trenches were left, and the men drawn into a small for-
tification at the bridge end, with intent the next night to
take up our bridge also. Whiche Taxis perceiving from
the towne, and seeing the small companies remaining on
that side, he sallied with about two thousand footmen,
passed the first trenches forsaken, and assaulted the small
fortification remaining with great valure, himself be-
ing of the first in person. Our men being taken on the
sudden were at the first shot or two of them slaine: but the
rest stood manfully to it, at the pikes end, untill sir Willi-
am Scamley running over the bridge from the *Yellowe*
side with supply of six or six hundred footmen, and lieu-
tenant Nicholas Parker with sixtie horsemen, drove
them away even into the towne gate, and slew many of
them, and were likely to have entred the towne pell mel
with them, if the soldiers had not biene staid by their
leaders. The next night we left this little fortification
also, and take up our bridge, and day by day, as it might
conveniently be done, dismissed the whole forces into
garrisons.

It may be demanded his Excellencie being now in a
good course of prosperous proceeding the Prince with his
camp being gone, the towne taken, and nothing remain-
ing in those quarters but the bare towne of *Zuyphus* why
the winning of that was not attempted also. To which
this may be answered: The towne is of it selfe of small
importance without the fort, only prohibiting the free
passage

A report of the sevndene

passage of the river by it: Elizabet is very strong, and may
ride of all necessities; and at that time remained with
twa or thre thousand bearing armes, and the Prince
thought depe of further of, not houering with his armes
not above twentie English miles of it, so that the am-
tent of it would note but dangerous, the commodite
small. But helme, it remaynteth so iuyll, and with our
garrisones remaynteth as it may be well to be belied
bellegh. In Devone: five English miles of northennes
on the river, lie the sir William Stroley with tweyn
hundred footmen, and two hundred horse. In the soote
of Zymber on the Kellere side within mynchet shot of the
towne at west, is maister Rowland Yorke with eight
hundred footmen, a hundred hundred horse. At Dusbury
southward six miles, (and at Berewick castell somwhat
nearer) vpon the banks of ffalke is sir Iohn Boronghes
with eight hundred footmen, and two hundred horse. The
eall and southeast quarters are shot vp with our garri-
sons of Lockham, Shreverberg, Dretcam: so that they of the
garrison of Zymber can not get out, neither can so much
as hymselfe brought to them, but by land: and that from
twentie or thirtie miles of at least; and through the mis-
chief of our garrisones, which will require more forces
than the Prince can often spare them, and more charges
than the value of the towne will counteruaile. But be-
fore our comming away, as soone as our camp was ben-
ken vp, we heare that Taxis hath lessened his garrison to
the number of two hundred, and put the Burgers out of
the towne, meaning to spare vituals, whiche he bath in
small store. For neither did the Prince bring him in
much at the tyme he came thither, neither could he com-
be lesse of him at that tyme with any plente too much of
caryng on. Besides these, other causes alledged this at-
tempt against Zymber. The tyme of yeare is soone, the
gounds in that quarter were very great, and our horses

in the lowe Countries.

done not, who if they had not disappointed us, all impe-
niments notwithstanding his Excellencie has proceeded
farther. And last of all it was thought he had done well
for this yeare: more being indeed most happily attayned,
than was hoped for or purposed at our commynge forth.
For the onely intent of the first setting out of this last
campe was to raise the siege of Berke: yea, or it was could
have honorably deliverred our men that were in it:
though the toknes were lost, it was thought a sufficient
piece of service, both to small meane against an enimie so
proud, & such continual late victories so greatly elate-
ned and feared. But God be thanked, who is the giner of
victories, and whose powre for his poore affliction apperead
not obscurely in these actions: Berke is clearely delivred,
the Englysh are all come from it: it is left well manned
and otherwise provided. And if we will summarilie note
all Gods blessings in these militarie seruices only shew-
en by the ministerie of his Excellencie during the time
of his governement and abode there, it will appear
that in those few monethes there haue bene taken by
our men from the enimie above fiftene townes, ca-
stles, forts, and fortresses: that his scotemen and his best
scotemen the Spanyards haue been met withall at Gran, that
his horsemen and his best horsemen the Albaneles,
and Italiens haue bene well encountered in the skirmish
beside Zutphen: that his strong Zutphen forts were ta-
ken by assault, even in the sight almost of himselfe, and of
his whole campe: that his armie so much redoubted and
feared, was drawne from Berck to Zutphen: there abid-
den, there encountered sundry times, and at length retur-
ned backe againe & dismissed without saving his forts, by
paying vs any daunage, saving the losse of sir Phillip Sid-
ney, & one it is, he hath gotten in this time Gran, Venlo,
& Nijmegen. But Gran by such meane, as baron Hernarre
governor by publique iudgement of his owne battaillons
done

A report of the seruice

and commandir the Count Hollock, and of al other
militarie officers of all nations, lost his head for it. *Wenclse* was
yielded by the townesmen whiles the soldiers defended
the walls. *Nusse* was not of the jurisdiction, or territory
of the United Provinces, & therefore his Excellencie had
not to do with it. But this is true also, that in all these
wars and sundrie diversities of accidents and attempts
in divers places, the enemie never got one towne, castle,
forte, or sconce, wherein any one english soldier was, nor
did any one pere of service. Worth the noting since his
Excellencie came into the feldoe with this armie. And
let the Estates especially, and the people of the United
Provinces acknowledge the godnes of God in these his
woorkes, and the great grace and fauor of her Maiestie, in
spending and londing so and so them, her money, forces,
and most valiant, noble, louing and beloued subiects, by
whose seruice it is nowe done for them, that whereas
their estate was at his Excellencies first arraiall, so ba-
terly without hope of standing as is shewed at the begin-
ning of my letter: Nowe they are left in god assurance
of saftey, religion by a symode being fully establisched: the
civill government orderly settled: the militarie discipline
well restorid: their people in god obedience: their fron-
ters in great hope of maintenance to be continued: their
territorie in *Gelders*, *Zaippen*, *Ouerisell*, and *Flaunders* in-
larged: their renewyd by a great accession of contribution
in *Gelders* and *Ouerisell* increased: their doubtfull friends
of *Ouerisell* assyred, and their enemie put to that plunge,
as he yet hath not beeне since his being in those countries.
God make them as thankfull to God and his Maiestie
for it as they haue god cause: and to acknowledge it to
his Excellencie as his franke and most behomefull great
seruice for them hath deserved: whom if extremities of
sundrie kinde of great crosses: plaine destitution and
want almost of all fit meanes: private care of his owne
most

in the lowe Countries.

most large expences for the publike: or often dangerous hazard of his person could haue withdrawne from this proceeding, nothing had beeне done at this time. But God whom he serueth hath wrought this great wo^rke out of all thos difficulties by him, to him be the praise and glory for it. His Excellencie after his campe thus dismissed, and a little time spent at *Viricht* in the publike affaires, departed thence to the *Hage* in *Hollande*: where hauing established perfect order in the ciuill and military governments during his absence, being upon important causes to returne into *England*, from *Hage* he passed by *Delp*, *Rotterdam*, *Dort*, *Briell*, and *Vlusing*, wher he embarked for *England* on the 23. of November at night, and on the next night was with her Maestie at *Richmonde*, of whom he was most graciously received.

Thus haue I been bold to trouble you with this brieue discourse, wherein if any thing set downe or omitted be not to your contentation, I hope you will consider it hath proceded by your owne earnest synging from him, who desirereth nothing more then to content you, and who but to please you had rather haue shewed his dutifull affectiōn in some other matter. But thus much if it like you so well to interprete of it, may be as it were to gaine you a taste in these matters, till some of better skill and more leisure may fully satisfie it with a iust volume, which I wish indeed to be done, the argument will well beare it. And so remaining to do you what further seruice my slender abilitie may asorde I ende. At London the 8. of Januarie 1586.

Your worships bumble

in all seruice, *T. D.*